

# ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN NEW HOUSING

## Site practice for tradesmen

### Windows and doors: Installing frames and insulated glazing units



Insulated glazing, typically double glazing, offers significant advantages in reducing heat losses, compared with single glazing.

The quality of workmanship and the glazing method selected are critical to the expected life of the edge seal to the glazing unit. Prolonged contact between moisture and the edge seal will lead to early failure of the seal, and subsequent failure of the glazing unit.

There are a number of preferred glazing techniques for installing double glazing. The manufacturer's sitework instructions should be followed at all times.

Frames should be installed plumb and square, and set out in accordance with the designer's requirements. Maintain specified tolerances, especially where manufactured components, such as insulated cavity closers, are being installed. Install frame fixings as specified.

To help ensure a successful installation, follow the points on the back of this leaflet.

#### REMEMBER

**Workmanship is one of the most important factors in preventing early failure of edge seals**



Energy Efficiency Office  
DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

*“Workmanship is one of the most important factors in preventing early failure of edge seals”*

### POINTS TO FOLLOW

- Store frames in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions
- Ensure brickwork/blockwork lightly abuts frame only

#### Glazing

- Handle all units with care to avoid chipping and breaking the glazing unit
- Store glazing materials in accordance with the manufacturer's sitework instructions  
Ensure glass is stored in a dry, sheltered area out of direct sunlight
- Before starting glazing operations, ensure that:
  - frame fixing is complete
  - rebates are free from obstructions and debris
  - all protective coverings are removed from the frame
  - rebates have been primed, if necessary
  - drain holes/channels in frame are clear to operate
- Check glazing unit clearances, and glazing units for damage. Do not fit damaged units
- Check that glazing compounds are as specified
- Centrally locate glazing unit in the frame. Use setting blocks and distance pieces in the correct locations to avoid distortion of the frame
- Remove excess compounds and/or sealants from glazing sheets and surrounds



*Fix dpc and backing tapes to frame prior to installing*



*Install frames plumb and square and check setting out*



*Install frame fixings as specified*



*Seal gap around frame with a suitable sealant*

#### Acknowledgements

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